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庚申年五月廿三日

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TRAGEDY IN CAYLON.

A Suspended Bridge Wire Breaks.

The Week festivities were marred by a terrible accident that occurred on May 11 near Polpalewella, Ceylon. About a mile and a half on the Polpalewella-Kegalle road, the big bridge over the Maha Oya, which was destroyed by the floods last year is being rebuilt and in the meantime a temporary wire bridge had been erected across the new structure, being suspended above the roadway of the new bridge at a height of 25 feet and about 100 feet above the bed of the river, says the Times of Ceylon.

On the Saturday morning the road was crowded with Week holiday-makers whose objective was a big temple on the other side of the river. Apparently it had not struck any one that the bridge was not built to carry a large crowd of people and, as far as we have been able to learn, no attempt was made to regulate the traffic. Hundreds of holiday-makers, men, women, and children, mostly chattering and laughing between intervals of their ringing cry of "Sadda," walked along the frail, springing structure quite unconscious of the danger they were incurring. The traffic was at its greatest, about half past ten, and then, without warning, a hundred people on the bridge were suddenly without any warning one of the wires on which the bridge was suspended snapped, and the bridge, still held by the wire on the other side, tilted and, dropping most of the live contents into the water, the dry bed of the river, or the masonry under-neath as the case might be. The bridge then partially righted itself and, with a bang, with about 20 or 30 frightened men and women, who had managed to get a firm grasp of the iron rails, clung to it.

To the people who stood on either side, whether about to cross or having just done so, the shock was terrible one, as may be imagined—a gaily dressed, happy crowd of men and women, many of the latter with children in their arms, a sudden crash, and the air suddenly rent with shrieks which continued spasmodically as after the first dislodgement of human bodies into the river, others who had obtained a partial hold of the rails and planks of the bridge dropped into the water. Two circumstances in connection with the accident were fortunate, one being that the river was at low tide and the other that the water was not very deep. If the river had been in flood there would have been a great area of exposed bed of stones. Those who fell into the water, as far as we have been able to learn, escaped without serious injury, though they at first presented a more or less alarming scene than the others—frightened men and women struggling in the water, the women and children uttering the most piercing cries. Happily they were easily assisted to the bank by the crowd. On the land bed of the river, however, the scene was a different one. Some of the people on the bridge, warned along to the edge without assistance, others had to be helped. In the meantime the injured had been brought up to the road. Only one man was found as easily dead. Three others died on the way to Polpalewella station. Another man, a wealthy village chieftain, was severely injured himself, was present, but he refused to go to the hospital, saying that he must go to make arrangements for the funeral. There were about 40 injured, 22 of them severely, of whom 10 were sent by train to Kurungalla hospital.

During the end of the J. E. Hodgkin art collection at Sotheby's recently, a small collection of royal relics was the point of sale. They consisted of a lock of the hair of Edward IV., taken from the king's head when his body was discovered in 1483, while repairs were being made to the pavement of the choir in St. George's Chapel, Windsor; a fragment of the lining of the cloak of Charles I., preserved at Blenheim Palace; and a piece of Charles I.'s neckcloth which he was wearing at the moment of his execution. The collection was formed by the late Duke of Devonshire, who had inherited it from the Duke of Devonshire.

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8 A.M. 'HEUNGSHAN'		8 A.M. 'HONAM'	
10 P.M. 'KINSHAN'		5 P.M. 'FATSHAN'	
THURSDAY, 4th JUNE.			
8 A.M. 'HONAM'		8 A.M. 'HEUNGSHAN'	
10 P.M. 'PATSHAN'		4 P.M. 'KINSHAN'	

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References: R. G. Dun & Co., Foreman Bros., Banking Co. of Chicago, U. S. A., and all other large mercantile houses, banks and transportation companies doing international business.

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WONG PING WA, Manager.



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A dark, grainy, black and white image showing a dense, textured surface, possibly a wall or a large crowd, with a bright, circular light source visible in the lower center. The image is heavily degraded with noise and artifacts, making it difficult to discern specific details. The overall appearance is that of a low-quality scan or a very dark, noisy photograph.

